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(c) If the answer to (b) is in the negative, what method they propose to adopt in order to elicit public opinion before they pass final orders?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) & (c) The Government have approved the proposal to localise the ayacut under the canal so as to avoid wastage of water under it. A notification will be issued by the Revenue Department inviting applications from the ryots to register their lands as wet or irrigable dry as the case may be. The lands will be registered as per the applications and water-supply to them will be regulated accordingly."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Government will make that report available to us by placing it on the table of the library? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government do not consider it necessary to place it on the table."

Copyists of Judicial and Revenue departments.

* 113 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received an appeal from the copyists of Judicial and Revenue departments of Rayalaseema to absorb them into regular ranks of public service and treat them as clerks and accord them the same status, salary and privileges as in the case of clerks ;

(b) whether similar representations have been received from other parts of the Province ;

(c) whether the Madras High Court has recommended their case for sympathetic consideration ; and

(d) whether any action has been taken on the said appeals and if so, what decision has been arrived at by the Government?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) During the first and second weeks of March 1949 printed copies of a representation purporting to emanate from the Judicial and Revenue copyists of the Rayalaseema were received.

" (b) Yes.

" (c) Yes, so far as the copyists of Judicial Department are concerned.

" (d) Orders have been passed accepting the following recommendations of the High Court regarding the copyists of the Judicial Department—

(1) that the remuneration of the copyists may be raised from 15 pies for 150 words to 2 annas for 175 words ;

(2) that a machine allowance of Rs. 2–8–0 per month may be given ; and

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(3) that the rate of copying charges may be raised from 3 annas for 176 words to 5 annas for 175 words.

"As regards the copyists of the Revenue Department orders have been passed accepting the following recommendation of the Board of Revenue—

(1) that the remuneration of the copyists may be increased by 25 per cent; that is, from 2 annas to 2½ annas for 176 words;

(2) that a machine allowance of Rs. 2–8–0 per month may be given; and

(3) that the value of copy stamp paper may be increased from 3 annas to 5 annas.

"Subsequent to the preparation of this answer, I may inform the House that the service of the copyists has been made pensionable."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Sir, have the Government fixed any salaries for them?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" We have fixed a particular salary for them in case they go on leave. A flat rate of pension at Rs. 25 per month for 25 years of service has been fixed for copyists."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Do the pension rules apply to the Judicial and Revenue establishment copyists?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" The orders that have been passed relate to the Judicial establishment copyists."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" What is the period of service that is counted as eligible for a grant of pension?"

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" Twenty-five years have been fixed for the grant of pension, and for lesser periods, proportionate pension will be given."

Tractors working in the districts.

* 114 *Q.*—SRI N. SANKARA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of tractors working in the Province;

(*b*) the districts in which they are working and the number in each district;

(*c*) the total acreage ploughed and the income to the Government in each district; and

(*d*) whether there is any proposal to establish a workshop to repair the tractors in Rayalaseema?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) The number of tractors working in the Province is 163.